GROSSMONT COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

Curriculum Committee Approval: 05/18/2021

GCCCD Governing Board Approval: 06/15/2021

# HISTORY 106 – MODERN WESTERN CIVILIZATION

1. Course Number Course Title Semester Units

HIST 106 Modern Western Civilization 3

Semester Hours

3 hours lecture 48-54 total hours 96-108 outside-of-class hours 144-162 total hours

2. Prerequisites

None

Corequisite

None

Recommended Preparation

None

3. Catalog Description

A historical survey tracing the events and development of the modern Western world from 1500 to the present. Particular emphasis upon the making of modern European political/economic systems, institutions, values, and ideas. Such topics include Reformation/Age of Religious Wars, Absolutism, Scientific Revolution, Enlightenment, Age of Revolutions, Napoleonic Era, nineteenth-century ideologies, industrialization, nationalism, imperialism, modern western science, modern western art/literature, world wars, totalitarianism, the Cold War and contemporary Europe.

4. Course Objectives

The student will:

1. Identify the meaning of the term “Western” within its appropriate world historical context.
2. Compare and contrast the political, social and cultural characteristics of various European nations.
3. Distinguish features among modern Western Civilization’s major ideas and institutions.
4. Analyze the foundational importance of Great Britain, France and Germany in shaping the modern western world.
5. Assess the impact and contributions of Russian civilization to the modern western world.
6. Discuss how the competing forces of religion, science and secularism forged the modern western world’s major conflicts and resolutions.
7. Assess the impact of major social and intellectual revolutions/movements within early modern and the modern Western Civilization.
8. Evaluate the literature, art, and cultural traditions found throughout the early modern and modern western world.
9. Interpret the role of technology, war, and significant scientific achievements in shaping the modern western world.
10. Evaluate the scope, power and modern legacy of western imperialism throughout the globe.
11. Interpret and evaluate the major ideas and impact of the modern western world’s significant political revolutions.
12. Evaluate the impact and reach of European society throughout the “non-Western” parts of the world.
13. Discuss the major events and changes seen in European/Western society during the 20th century.
14. Discuss contemporary world issues, problems, and cultural traditions and legacies within a historically western context.
15. Appraise primary documents with a critical and inquiring mind.
16. Analyze and interpret maps, historical data and charts.
17. Compose written assignments reflecting insightful understanding of historical forces, people and events.
18. Analyze historical sources to formulate a purposeful historical thesis and support the thesis with evidence.

5. Instructional Facilities

Standard Classroom

6. Special Materials Required of Student

None

7. Course Content

Within the broad historical sweep of Modern Western Civilization, analysis of the following topics and geographic regions may include but are not limited to the following:

1. Early Modern Europe (16th – 18th Centuries)
   1. Reformation/Wars of Religion
   2. Tudor/Stuart Monarchies in England
   3. Valois/Bourbon Monarchies in France
   4. Habsburg Monarchies in Europe
   5. Colonial Empires in the Americas
   6. Age of European State Building
   7. Era of Political Absolutism and “Enlightened Despots”
2. Age of Revolution, Reaction and Empire (18th and 19th Centuries)
   1. American Revolution
   2. Old Regime and the French Revolution
   3. Age of Napoleon and the French Empire
   4. Revolutions of 1848
   5. National Unification of Italy and Germany
   6. Austrian Empire: Dual Monarchy
   7. Great Britain: The Victorian Age
   8. Imperial Russia: Land of the Czars
   9. Ottoman Empire: Power of the Sultans
   10. France’s Third Republic
   11. “New Imperialism” – European Colonization of Africa and Asia
3. Beginning of the Twentieth Century: War and Revolution
   1. European Militarism and Internal Dissent
   2. Balkans Crisis
   3. World War I (The Great War)
   4. Paris Peace Conference/Versailles Treaty
   5. Post-War Europe
   6. Weimar Republic
   7. Russian Revolution
   8. Rise of Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy
   9. World War II
   10. Holocaust
4. Post-World War II to the end of the 20th century
   1. Origins of the Cold War
   2. Era of European Decolonization
   3. Eastern Europe – Behind the Iron Curtain
   4. Western Europe – Revival of Democracy
   5. Cold War Confrontations
   6. Collapse of Communism
   7. Reunification of Germany
   8. Growth of Terrorism
   9. Western Globalization

e. Scientific/Intellectual/Technological Eras (16th – 20th Centuries)

1) Scientific Revolution – Astronomy, Physics, Medicine

2) Age of the European Enlightenment

3) Age of 19th Century “Isms” – Conservatism, Liberalism, Romanticism, Nationalism

4) Marxism, Socialism, Anarchism

5) Feminism/Suffragist Movements

6) Industrial Revolution

7) Social/Economic Impact of Industrial Society

8) Age of 19th and 20th Century Science

9) Modern Thought – Freud, Nietzsche, Existentialism, Social Darwinism

10) 20th Century Totalitarianism – Fascism and Communism

11) Late Twentieth Century Technology – Computers and the Information Age

f. Cultural/Literary Achievements

1) Literature – poetry, drama, novels

2) Visual Arts – paintings, artistic movements, sculpture, film

3) Architecture – styles, noted buildings

4) Music

5) Mass Media – print, television

8. Method of Instruction

# a. Lecture.

# b. Discussion and interpretation of primary documentsand/or historical topics.

# c. Study guides or examination reviews.

# d. Multi-media presentations.

# e. Visual aids, such as PowerPoint slides, transparencies, video/DVDs, etc.

# f. Internet websites.

# g. Guest speakers.

h. Collaborative projects.

i. Library resources: books, periodicals, databases, reference works, and internet resources pertaining to Modern Western Civilization.

9. Methods of Evaluating Student Performance

a. Objective tests involving true or false questions, multiple choice, or multiple answer, mapping, or sequencing, which build on knowledge over modules.

b. Quizzes that assess module mastery and SLOs via multiple choice, multiple answer, t/f, sequencing, mapping, or short lists.

c. Oral and written reports on course material involving the use of primary and secondary source material to analyze topics, discuss cause and consequences, and demonstrate course level knowledge of relevant events and people.

d. Written essays based on prompts requirement students to discuss historical events in context, with reference to relevant individuals and case and consequences.

e. Group/Discussion activities involving the analysis of primary and secondary sources related to course material with an eye towards recognizing bias and presentism.

f. Research papers (6-8 pages minimum, 600 word minimum) on significant events, people, concepts, or socio-cultural developments understood within their historical context and demonstrating knowledge of changes over time and consequences.

g. Midterm and final exam with a strong writing (essay) component to assess students’ critical thinking skills as well as the course content. Other types of questions might include multiple choice, multiple answer, listing, defining, mapping, sequences, true/false, and short answer.

10. Outside Class Assignments

a. Prepare for an in-class essay of minimum 600 words about England’s Tudor Dynasty by

creating answers to sample essay questions, one of which will be asked in class. Preparation

will involve reviewing evidence from lecture, discussions, readings and any supplemental

materials to formulate a thesis in answer to the questions.

b. Prepare an essay outside of class, comparing and contrasting 19th political unification in Italy and Germany, utilizing evidence from lecture, discussions, readings and any supplemental materials.

c. Conduct focused independent research and write a 6-8 page paper (minimum 600 words) on the First World War historical topic of the individual student’s choice. The paper must demonstrate how their subjects relate to larger questions or events in Modern Western Civilization.

d. Prepare for group discussions about the French and Russian Revolutions with each group

focusing on different perspectives and experiences, such as economics, building projects, political structures, etc., utilizing evidence from course materials and independent research.

e. Internet research with multiple sources and websites.

f. Take-home exams.

11. Representative Texts

a. Representative Text(s):

1. Spielvogel, Jackson J. *Western Civilization.* Vol. II, *Since 1500.* 11th ed. Boston, MA: Cengage, 2021.
2. Kagan, Donald, et al. *The Western Heritage*. Vol. 2, *Since 1648*. 12th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson, 2020.
3. Cole, Joshua and Carol Symes. *Western Civilizations*. Vol. 2. 20th ed. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2020.
4. Perry, Marvin, et. al. *Western Civilization: Ideas, Politics and Society*. Vol. II, *From 1600*. 11th ed. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, 2016.
5. Levack, Brian., et. al. *The West: Encounters and Transformations.* Vol. B, *Since 1550.* 5th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson, 2018.
6. McKay, John P., et al. *Understanding Western Society: A History*. Vol. 2, *From the Age of Exploration to the Present.* 2nd ed. Boston, MA: Bedford St. Martins, 2015.
7. Wiesner-Hanks, Merry, et. al. *A History of Western Society.* Vol. 2, *From the Age of Exploration to the Present.* 13th ed. Boston, MA: Bedford St. Martins, 2020.
8. *Merriam- Webster Advanced Learner’s English Dictionary*. 9th Ed. 2016.

b. Supplementary Texts and Workbooks:

1. Perry, Marvin, et. al. *Sources of the Western Tradition*. Vol. II, *From the Renaissance to the Present*. 10th ed. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, 2019.
2. Brophy, James M. et. al., eds. *Perspectives from the Past: Primary Sources in Western Civilizations*. Vol. 2, *From the Age of Exploration to Contemporary Times*. 7th ed. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2021.
3. Hobbes, Thomas. *Leviathan*. Newburyport: Open Road Media, 2020.
4. More, Thomas. *Utopia*. Hollywood, FL: Simon and Brown, 2012.
5. Marx, Karl and Engels, Friedrich. *Communist Manifesto*. Newburyport: Open Road Media, 2020.

Addendum: Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, out students will be able to do the following:

1. Analyze primary and secondary sources and explain how they support a thesis statement
2. Explain relationships between the causes of historical events and their effects.
3. Describe a relevant individual involved in an historical event and explain his/her significance in this event.